

## Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /025 W

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R 091220Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5051

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 6760

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (BONKER, DON)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF CODEL BONKER

REF: STATE 151675

1. CODEL DON BONKER VISITED EGYPT JULY 7-9. HE WAS GUEST AT THE RESIDENCE. AS HE HAD REQUESTED, A DINNER BRIEFING WAS ARRANGED FOR HIM AT THE RESIDENCE ON EVENING JULY 7. AMBASSADOR, ASSISTED BY OTHER MEMBERS COUNTRY TEAM, CONDUCTED BRIEFING.

2. MORING JULY 8 AMBASSADOR DROVE TO ALEXANDRIA WITH CODEL FOR A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT. REPORT OF THAT MEETING BEING SENT SEPTTEL.

3. FOLLOWING RETURN TO CAIRO LATER THAT AFTERNOON, CODEL AND AMBASSADOR MET WITH DEPUTY PRIMIN/WAR GAMASY FOR ABOUT AN HOUR. IN QUERYING GAMASY RE HIS VIEW ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF CURRENT MID-EAST SITUATION, GAMASY TOLD CODEL HE DOES NOT BELIEVE ISRAELIS WANT PEACE. THEY WANT TO HOLD OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES. CODEL NOTED HIS VIEW THAT ISRAELIS MAINLY INTERESTED IN SINAI FOR SECURITY PURPOSES AND BECAUSE OF STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF THE PASSES. GAMASY DENIED THAT DEFENSE WAS THE REAL ISSUE. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE GIDI AND MITLA PASSES HAVE SOME IMPORTANCE, HE POINTED OUT THERE ARE AT LEAST THREE OTHER ACCESS ROADS ACROSS SINAI FROM WHICH  
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ISRAEL COULD BE ATTACKED, VIZ THE COASTAL ROAD, THE

ROAD FROM ISMAILIA TO BIR BARTH EL HEGAYIRON TO BEERSHEBA, THE COASTAL ROAD FROM THE EL-TOR DOWN TO SHARM ASH-SHAikh. CODEL ASKED WHETHER, IF ISRAELIS AGREED EGYPTIANS MIGHT MOVE FORWARD IN SINAI, PROVIDED PASSES WERE LEFT IN ISRAELI HANDS, GOE WOULD AGREE. GAMASY RESPONDED HE WOULD AND DREW LINE FROM BARDAWIL THROUGH JABAL YALIQ PAST EASTERN ENTRANCES OF THE PASSES ON SOUTHWARD AS FORWARD EGYPTIAN LINE. (THIS WOULD MEAN EGYPTIANS ON BOTH SIDES OF ISRAELIS POSITIONS IN PASSES.) SUCH AN AGREEMENT, GAMASY STATED, HE WOULD HIMSELF SIGN. GAMASY EXPRESSED IMPATIENCE WITH THE SLOW PROGRESS OF SECOND STATE DISENGAGEMENT TALKS. IF NO PROGRESS MADE BY FALL, HE THOUGHT THERE WILL BE TROUBLE IN EGYPT. ASKED WHAT HE HAD IN MIND, HE RESPONDED LEFTIST GROUPS, WHO ARE ALREADY BEGINNING SHOW SIGNS OF ACTIVITY, WILL STEP UP THEIR EFFORTS. THEY WILL PUBLICLY DENOUNCE SADAT'S POLICY AS INEFFECTIVE. FIRST DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT, GAMASY NOTED, WAS NOTHING. LEFTISTS WILL PILLORY IT AS SUCH. THEY ARE BEING INSTIGATED BY QADHAAFI. AMBASSADOR ASKED GAMASY IF, IN HIS VIEW, EGYPTIAN MILITARY LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY SUCH SUBVERSIVE EFFORTS. GAMASY ANSWERED EGYPTIAN MILITARY LOYAL. LIBYAN AGENTS HAD TRIED TO SUBVERT SOME OFFICERS AND ALSO TO ENGAGE SOME DISCHARGED EGYPTIAN ENLISTED MEN WORKING IN LIBYA, BUT HAD NOT SUCCEEDED. CODEL EXPLAINED TO GAMASY CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN THAT US POLICY SHIFT IS TAKING PLACE WHICH IS LESSENING COMMITMENT TO SECURITY OF ISRAEL. HIS PURPOSE WAS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SITUATION.

4. A MEETING WITH FAHMY SCHEDULED FOR LATER LAST EVENING ABORTED WHEN IT DEVELOPED THAT FAHMY HAD TO LEAVE TO ATTEND DINNER FOR VISITING JORDANIAN CROWN PRINCE HASSAN. IN BRIEF TALK WITH HIS CHEF DE CABINET, USAMA AL-BAZ, LATTER SAID GOE HAS JUST RECEIVED REPORT THAT CONGRESSMAN PEPPER IS SOLICITING CONGRESSIONAL SIGNATURES FOR LETTER EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES USG SHOULD FULLY CONFIDENTIAL

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SUPPORT ISRAEL WITH MILITARY AND ECONOMIC HELP AND IN DISENGAGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS. THIS KIND OF LETTER AL-BAX NOTED, CREATES DISILLUSIONMENT AMONG EGYPTIANS ABOUT VALUE OF TIME SPENT WITH VISITING CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS WHO SO OFTEN LEAVE PROFESSING GREATER APPRECIATION PROBLEM HAS TWO SIDES AND THEN ACT ALONG TOTALLY ONE-SIDED LINES.

5. CODEL WAS INTERESTED AND ANXIOUS TO LEARN. WE  
BELIEVE HE DEVELOPED SOME NEW PERSPECTIVES DURING  
HIS BRIEF VISIT TO EGYPT. HE WAS MOST  
APPRECIATIVE OF ASSISTANCE PROVIDED.  
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